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BOTANICAL GAZETTE.

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VITALITY OF THE SEEDS OF DATURA TATULA, L.—In answer to the call for facts bearing on the vitality of seeds, I venture to contribute what follows:

From the spring of 1855 to the autumn of 1866 I occupied a house on Duke street, in the heart of the city of Lancaster, Penn. To this house was attached a garden, which extended to an alley in the rear and was separated from it and the neighboring gardens by high, close board fences. Its cultivation had been neglected, and, on taking possession, I observed in the lower end of it a huge stalk of *Datura Tatula*, L., which had been allowed to grow and spread itself and ripen and shed a large crop of seeds. That summer, after the ground was dug and planted, a numerous host of young Jimsons came up. These were extirpated. The next season another set appeared, and were dealt with in like manner, and so on, up to the 10th year, the numbers diminishing each year. I am sure they all sprang from seed of the same sowing. The second year I began to feel curious about their persistence, and then and during the years that succeeded carefully searched the alley far and near and all the gardens and vacant lots in the neighborhood and discovered no parent from which they could have come. It was barely possible for the seeds to have been introduced in manure, but then the occurrence of the plants only around the spot where the old stalk stood, and their gradual diminution in numbers forbade the supposition. In all parts of the garden seedlings of the honey-locust and ailanthus would at times show themselves. These were readily traced to cultivated trees at some distance. The strap-like pods of the former and the winged fruits of the latter are scattered widely by the winds, but the seeds of *Datura* require other means of transport.—THOS. C. PORTER, *Easton, Penn.*

FROM THE INDIAN TERRITORY we have received a collection of Plants numbering several hundred, made during the years 1875-7, by Timothy E. Wilcox, M. D., Ast. Surg. U. S. A. Below is a list of all the species among them not growing east of the Mississippi River, and consequently not described in Wood's Class Book, nor in the Botanist and Florist. It will be noted with surprise that only one species had been seen by Linnaeus:

Delphinium occidentale (*D. elatum*, var. *occidentale*, Watson.) Hoary pubescent above. Flowers bluish-white, the spur long, ascending, downy-canescant, the lower (apparently upper) petals bearded with cotton and their long claws spurred at the base.

Streptanthus hyacinthoides, Hook. Flowers large, deep bluish-purple. An attractive plant.

Biscutella Wislizeni, Eng. Found also in Texas and Southern California. Fruit large, 2-orbed. Flowers white.

Lepidium integrifolium, Nutt.

Talinum parviflorum, Nutt.

Vesicaria Ludoviciana, DC.

Malvastrum coccineum, (Nutt.) Gray.

Paronychia Jamesii, T. & G.

Krameria lanceolata, Torr.

Rhus trilobata, Nutt. Regarded by some as a variety of *R. aromatica*, Ait.

Dalea aurea, Torr. Large oblong spikes with golden yellow corollas set in the white plumage of the calyxes.

Petalostemon villosus, Nutt.

Astragalus mollissimus, Torr. Called "Pony Weed." It is an object of dread in the Territory, being considered fatal to the horses that feed upon it. The plant is densely silky-canescant all over, erect near 1 foot. Leaflets about 12 pairs, oval. Spikes